

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A driving method of a liquid crystal element for allowing said liquid crystal element to display a level of grayscale, said liquid crystal element displaying throughout a frame period by switching ON-state said liquid crystal element during a period corresponding to grayscale data that defines said level of grayscale, said method comprising:

dividing the frame into a plurality of sub-fields, the plurality of sub-fields having a first group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another and a second group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another, the first group of sub-fields being adjacent to the second group of sub-fields, each of the first group of sub-fields having a same first sub-field period, each of the second group of sub-fields having a same second sub-field period which is substantially equal to a sum of first sub-field periods of the first group of sub-fields;

~~sequentially selecting, according to said grayscale data, a plurality of first sub-field periods continuous with respect to one another and a plurality of second sub-field periods continuous with respect to one another used for securing a period corresponding to said grayscale data, said plurality of second sub-field periods following consecutively said plurality of first sub-field periods, each of said plurality of second sub-field periods being substantially equal to a length of a sum of said plurality of first sub-field periods and any one of the first sub-field periods, in a direction from a first sub-field period and a second sub-field period positioned on a boundary of said plurality of first sub-field periods and said plurality of second sub-field periods toward a first sub-field period and a second sub-field period at a position most remote from said boundary; and~~

selecting, according to the grayscale data, sub-fields that are adjacent to each other in a direction from a boundary between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of sub-fields toward a sub-field of the first group of sub-fields or a sub-field of the second group of sub-fields at a position most remote from the boundary; and

~~driving by switching ON-state said electro-optic element during said sub-field periods selected~~ the liquid crystal element during period of the sub-fields selected.

2. (Currently Amended) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1, ~~said plurality of first sub-field periods~~ first group of sub-fields and ~~said plurality of second sub-field periods~~ second group of sub-fields being included in a same frame period.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1, in said driving step, a period during which said liquid crystal element is switched ON-state being inserted in said boundary regardless of said grayscale data.

6-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1,

said grayscale data being composed of N bits (N is an integer not less than 2) to define a level of grayscale having 2 to the N^{th} power kinds;

high-order M bits in said N bits defining a level of grayscale ~~said plurality of second sub-field periods~~ said second group of sub-fields should display;

low-order (N - M) bits in said N bits defining a level of grayscale ~~said plurality of first sub-field periods~~ first group of sub-fields should display; and

said M is an optimal solution of M given on an assumption that said frame period includes $(2^{N-M} - 1)$ first sub-field periods.

13. (Currently Amended) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1,

said grayscale data being composed of N bits (N is an integer not less than 2) to define a level of grayscale having 2 to the N^{th} power kinds;

a length of each of said second sub-field periods being equal to a length of a period to display a level of grayscale defined by a least significant bit in high-order M bits in said N bits;

the number of said ~~plurality of second sub-field periods~~ second group of sub-fields being equal to a maximum value specified by said M bits;

a length of each of said first sub-field periods being equal to a length of a period to display a level of grayscale defined by a least significant bit in low-order (N - M) bits in said N bits; and

the number of said ~~plurality of first sub-field periods~~ first group of sub-fields being equal to a maximum value specified by said (N - M) bits.

14-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A driving device of a liquid crystal element for allowing said liquid crystal element to display a level of grayscale said liquid crystal element displays throughout a frame period by switching ON-state said liquid crystal element during a period corresponding to grayscale data that defines said level of grayscale, said device comprising:

~~a selecting circuit that sequentially selects, according to said grayscale data, a plurality of first sub-field periods continuous with respect to one another and a plurality of second sub-field periods continuous with respect to one another used for specifying the period corresponding to said grayscale data, said plurality of second sub-field periods following consecutively said plurality of first sub-field periods, each of said plurality of second sub-field periods being substantially equal to a length of a sum of said plurality of first sub-field~~

~~periods and any one of first sub-field periods, in a direction from a first sub-field period and a second sub-field period positioned on a boundary of said plurality of first sub-field periods and said plurality of second sub-field periods toward a first sub-field period and a second sub-field period at a remotest position from said boundary; and~~

a dividing circuit that divides the frame into a plurality of sub-fields, the plurality of sub-fields having a first group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another and a second group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another, the first group of sub-fields being adjacent to the second group of sub-fields, each of the first group of sub-fields having a same first sub-field period, each of the second group of sub-fields having a same second sub-field period which is substantially equal to a sum of first sub-field periods of the first group of sub-fields;

a selecting circuit that selects, according to the grayscale data, sub-fields that are adjacent to each other in a direction from a boundary between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of sub-fields toward a sub-field of the first group of sub-fields or a sub-field of the second group of sub-fields at a position most remote from the boundary; and

a driving circuit that switches ON-state said ~~electro-optic~~ liquid crystal element during ~~said sub-field periods~~ period of the sub-fields selected.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) Electronic equipment, comprising:

a display device, including a plurality of liquid crystal elements aligned in a matrix, that displays an image related to said electronic equipment; and

said driving device of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 30.

34-35. (Canceled)